

Guide to Reading Regional Transmission Expansion Planning (RTEP) Project Process Graphics

September 2010

September 1st Draft for Discussion

This package of graphics depicts WECC's current understanding of the regional transmission planning process under the RTEP project from July 2010 through December 2013. The following guidance will assist with reading and interpreting the diagrams:

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- 1 Pages 2a/2b function as a single diagram (2010–2013) providing a **high-level overview of Transmission Expansion Planning Policy Committee (TEPPC) and Scenario Planning Steering Group (SPSG) activities**. The text on the left sidebar indicates which activities correlate to Study Program development and regional transmission plan development.

 - 2 Pages 3a/3b function as a single diagram (2010–2013) providing **detail of TEPPC subcommittee and working group activities** over this same timeframe. These pages include dots indicating the types of environmental, policy, and energy planning input that will be needed at various stages of the process. Placement of one work group icon within another icon indicates that the work group will be providing additional input (often iteratively) to support completion of the task.

 - 3 Page 4 is a projection of **SPSG agenda items** for its next six meetings to give a general sense of the SPSG's work flow through 2011.

 - 4 Page 5 includes a **glossary** of TEPPC and SPSG acronyms and **definitions of terms** used on the graphics.

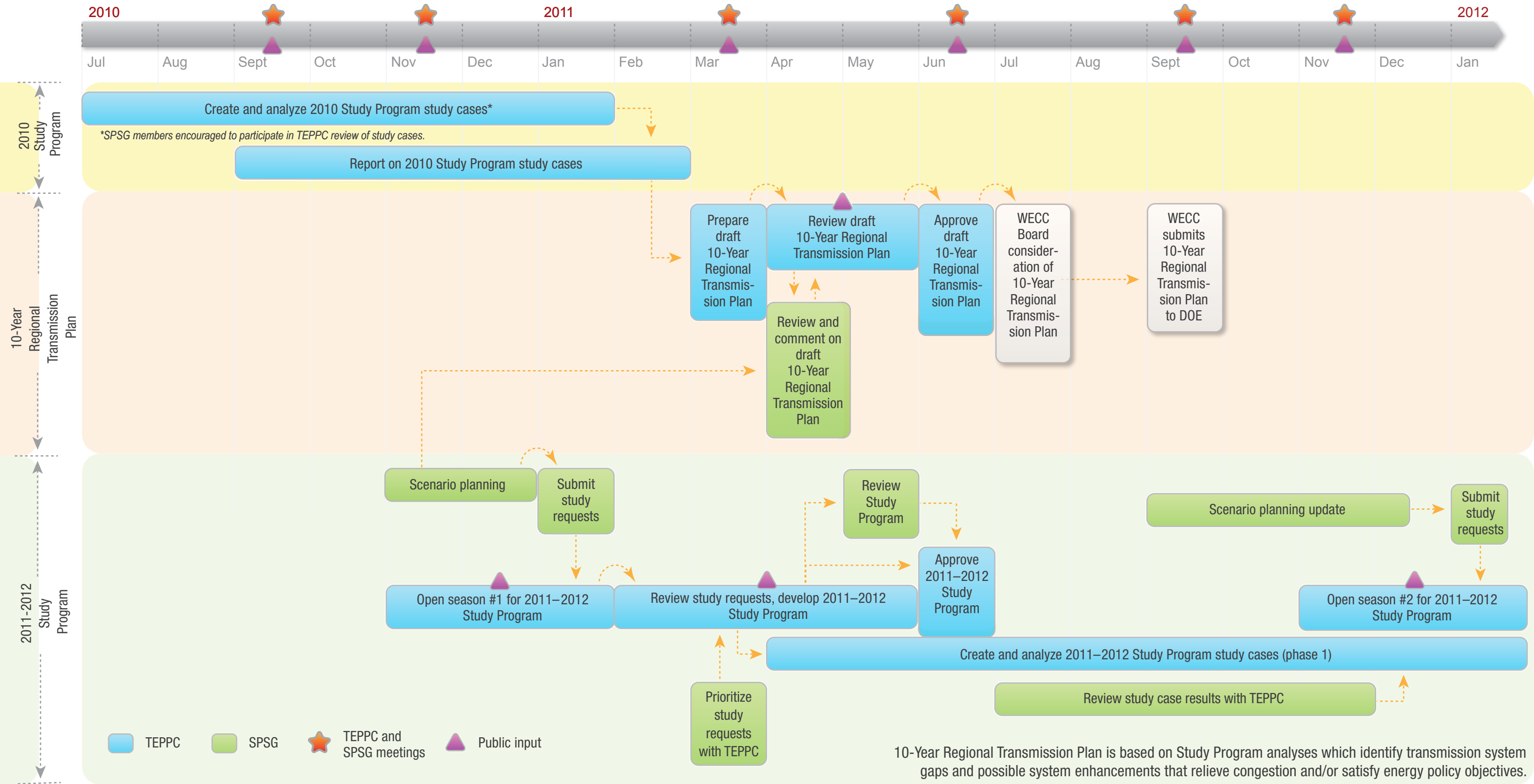
Regional Transmission Expansion Planning (RTEP) Project

Overview of Transmission Expansion Planning Policy Committee (TEPPC) and Scenario Planning Steering Group (SPSG) Activities

July 2010 – January 2012

September 1st Draft for Discussion

This page includes: development, analysis, and reporting on the 2010 TEPPC Study Program; development of the 10-Year Regional Transmission Plan; and development and analysis of the 2011–2012 TEPPC Study Program. All TEPPC, SPSG, and work group meetings are open to the public.



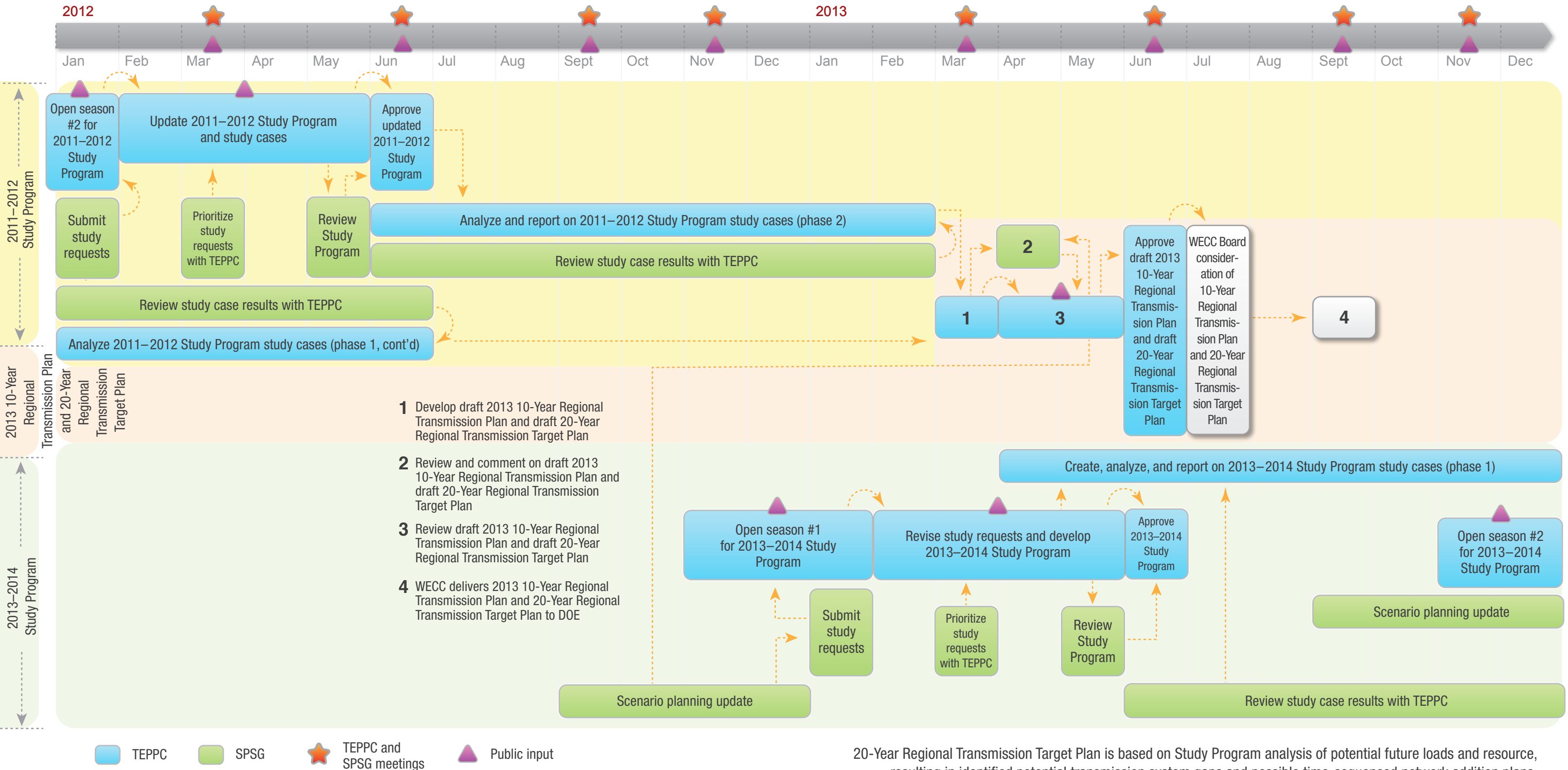
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Overview of Transmission Expansion Planning Policy Committee (TEPPC) and Scenario Planning Steering Group (SPSG) Activities

January 2012–December 2013

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This page includes: development, analysis, and reporting on the 2011-2012 TEPPC Study Program; development of the 2013 10-Year Regional Transmission Plan and 20-Year Regional Transmission Target Plan; and development and analysis of the 2013-2014 TEPPC Study Program.
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Regional Transmission Expansion Planning (RTEP) Project

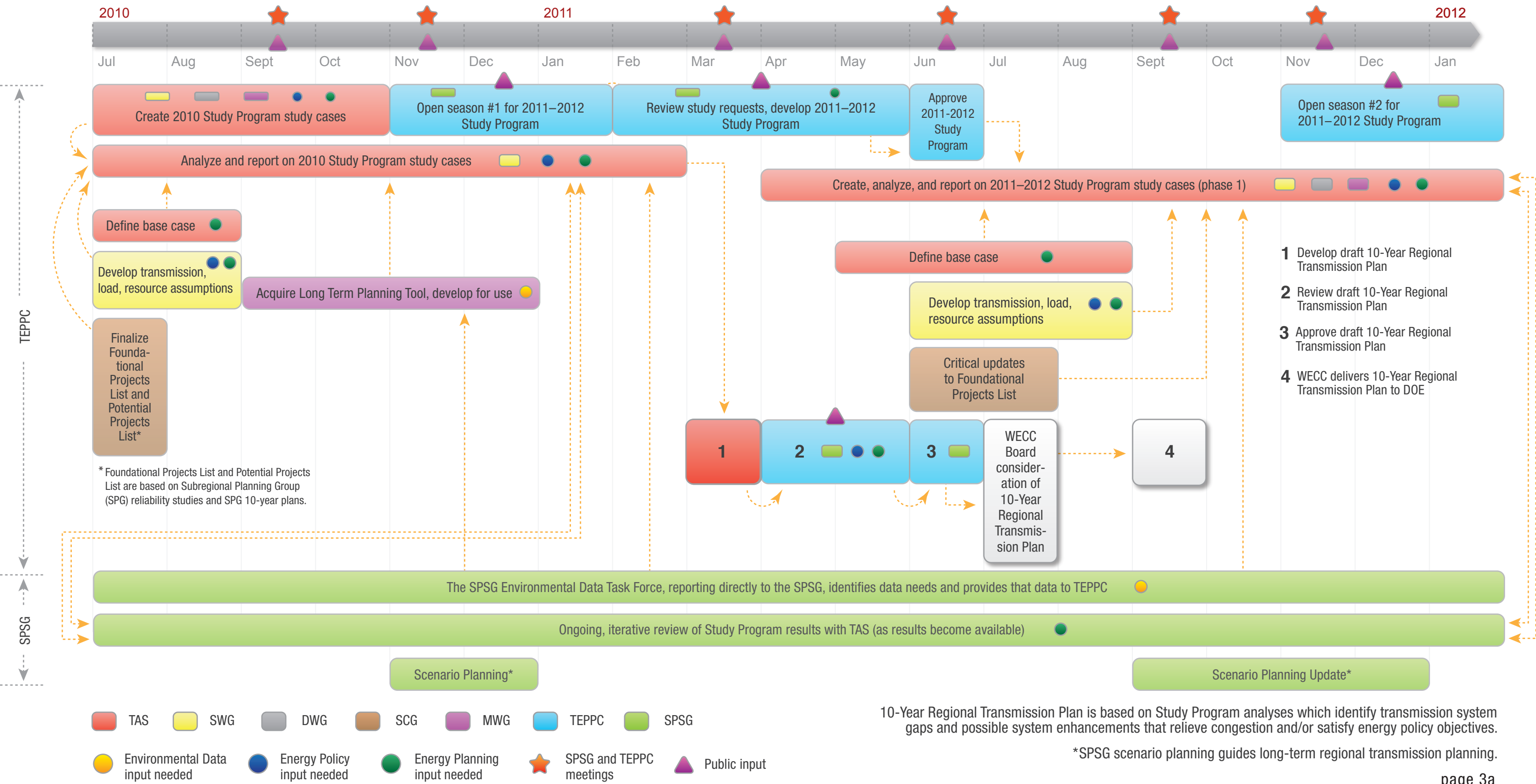
Transmission Expansion Planning Policy Committee (TEPPC)

Subcommittee and Work Group activities

July 2010–January 2012

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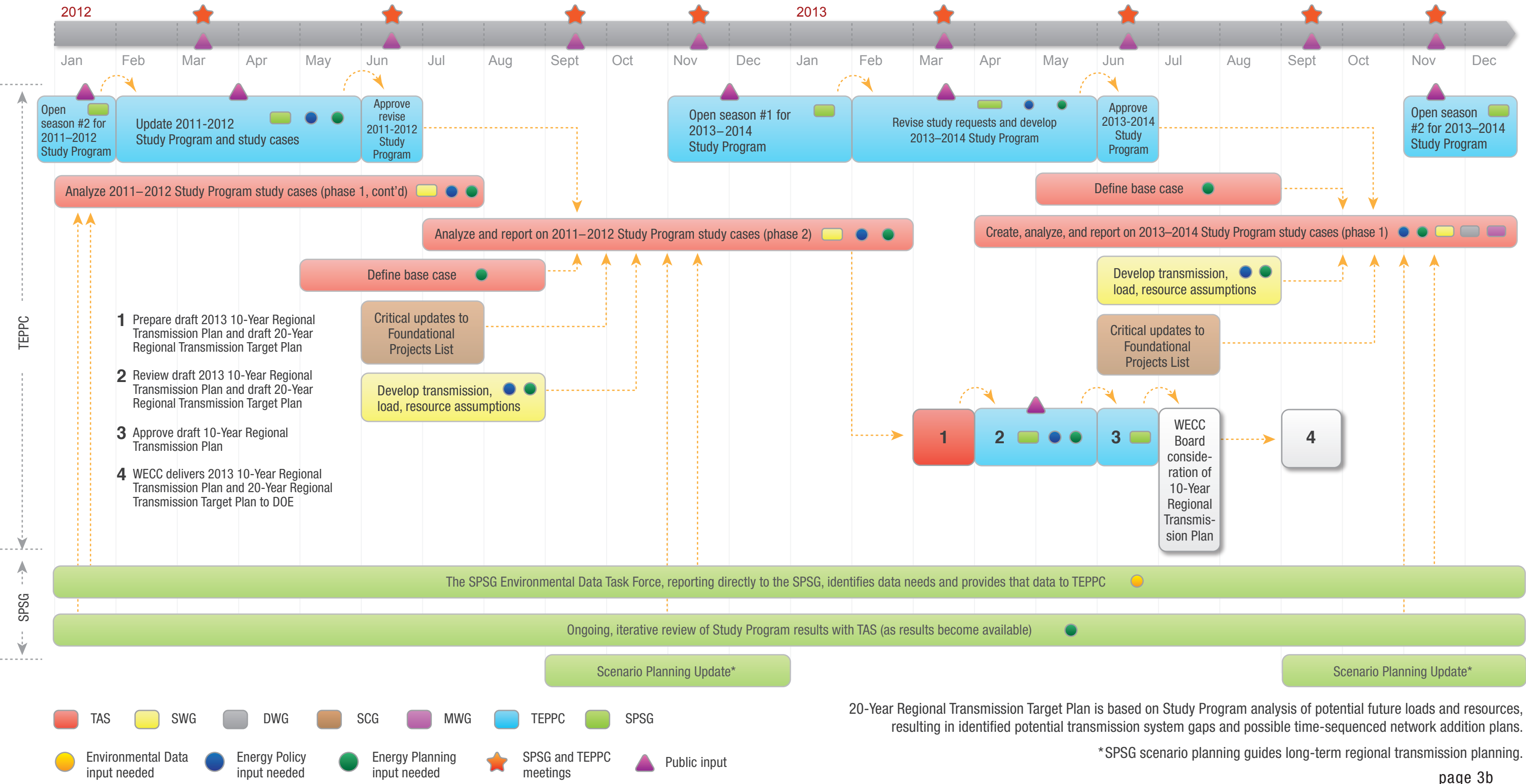
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Regional Transmission Expansion Planning (RTEP) Project

Projected Scenario Planning Steering Group (SPSG) Agenda Topics

July 2010 – January 2012

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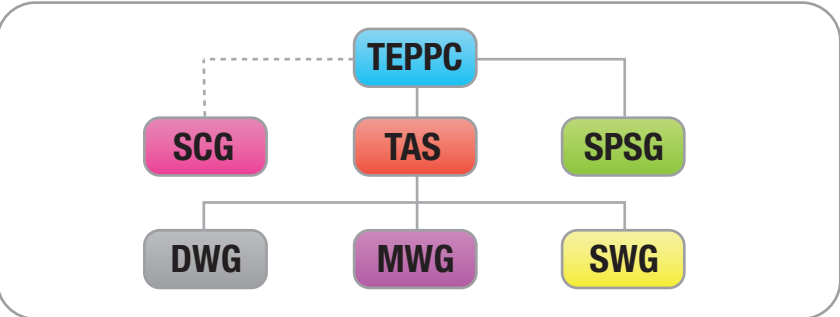
Description of Regional Transmission Expansion Planning (RTEP) Project Organizations and Activities

Scenario Planning Steering Group (SPSG)

- The purpose of the SPSG is to provide strategic guidance to the Transmission Expansion Planning Policy Committee (TEPPC) on:
 - o The scenarios to be modeled in transmission planning studies;
 - o The modeling tools to be used; and
 - o Key assumptions to be used in creating and reviewing the scenarios.

Environmental Data Task Force

- The SPSG Environmental Data Task Force was formed in June 2010.
- The proposed Scope of Work for the Task Force includes developing recommendations on the type, quality, and sources of data on wild lands, wildlife, and potentially water resources, exploring ways to transform that data into study cases and into the models.



Transmission Expansion Planning Policy Committee (TEPPC)

- TEPPC's four main functions include:
 - o Overseeing database management;
 - o Providing policy and management of the planning process;
 - o Guiding the analyses and modeling for Western Interconnection economic transmission expansion planning; and
 - o Preparing interconnection-wide transmission plans consistent with applicable NERC and WECC reliability standards.
- The Technical Advisory Subcommittee, Historical Analysis Work Group, Data Work Group, Modeling Work Group, and Studies Work Group, among others, support TEPPC in fulfilling these functions.

Technical Advisory Subcommittee (TAS)

- Collects and disseminates data for historic and forward-looking congestion studies
- Data for historic congestion studies used by Historical Analysis Working Group (HAWG)
- Forward looking congestion studies conducted by Studies Work Group (SWG) with data preparation and modeling support from the Data Work Group (DWG) and Modeling Work Group (MWG).

Subregional Coordination Group (SCG)

- The Subregional Planning Group (SPG) Coordination Group (SCG) coordinates planning activities among the TEPPC-recognized SPGs as well as British Columbia.
- The SCG facilitates the preparation of the SCG Foundational Transmission Projects List, which provides transmission system enhancements that are expected to be built within the next 10 years. The List serves as a starting point for TEPPC forward-looking congestion studies.

Data Work Group (DWG)

- Collects and verifies TEPPC database for economic studies of transmission planning

- Data is made available to subregional planning groups (SPGs), developers, regulators, etc.

Modeling Work Group (MWG)

- Evaluates and proposes improved models for production cost simulation Studies Work Group (SWG)
- Directs studies for which TEPPC is the study lead
- Establishes assumptions, selects base cases, and confirms methodology

Studies Work Group (SWG)

- Directs studies for which TEPPC is the study lead
- Establishes assumptions, selects base cases, and confirms methodology

Additional definitions:

- Study Program: For each planning cycle, TEPPC develops an economic congestion Study Program which has two parts: historical analysis of transmission utilization and economic transmission congestion studies. Each Study Program is based on the following sources of information: Subregional Planning Group 10-year plans, the Subregional Coordination Group Foundational Transmission Project List, feedback from the previous TEPPC planning cycle, study requests developed by the SPSG, and study requests made by other stakeholders.
- Study request: Any stakeholder may request that TEPPC conduct certain studies during each planning cycle (see open season definition, below). These study requests must be filed between November 1 and January 31, annually, and will be considered by TEPPC in the development of the TEPPC Study Program.
- Study case: Once TEPPC has finalized its Study Program, TEPPC proceeds with the preparation of study cases which include different scenarios of load, resource, demand-side measures, environmental policies, or other factors to identify potential future transmission congestion.
- Open season: Each year a TEPPC study request window will be open for three months (November 1 through January 31) during which time anyone may submit study requests to TEPPC. TEPPC uses the requests, along with SPSG study scenarios and follow-up items from past studies, to build the TEPPC Study Program.
- Public input: While all TEPPC, SPSG, and work group meetings are open to the public, the public input symbols indicate additional public review steps. The TEPPC open seasons provide a 3-month window, annually, for study requests from the public. Other public input steps represent opportunities for public comment on plans or other documents.
- The 10-Year Regional Transmission Plan is based on the Study Program analyses which identify transmission system gaps and possible system enhancements that relieve congestion and/or satisfy energy policy objectives.
- 20-Year Regional Transmission Target Plan: The 20-Year Regional Transmission Target Plan is based on Study Program analysis of potential future loads and resources, resulting in identified potential transmission system gaps and possible time-sequenced network addition plans.
- Energy policy input: Information related to state, provincial, and federal policies that may impact transmission, load, and resource planning.
- Energy planning input: Data inputs and modeling methods necessary to analyze future transmission needs.